ADDRESS OF HON. R. M. T. HUNTER, red before the Literary Societies of the Virginia Military Institute on the 3d of July, 1857. [CONCLUDED.]

I know there are those who reject this great hope for man's future destiny upon earth, and who point to his limited powers and finite capacities as necessarily affixing narrow boundaries to the path of his progress; but if he has already done so much with more restricted means, what may he not hope to accomplish in the future, with his enlarged facilities and appliances? If each succeeding generation may reasonably expect to bequeath to its successors a larger stock of wisdom and experience than it received from its predecessors, who can say that the boundaries of man's progress shall be either proximate or narrow? Take organized nature as we see it around us, from the vegetable to the animal kingdom, and what do we behold but a constant advancement in the order of creation, in the degrees of being? Take Nature's own earth-bound book of Genesis, and as we unfold one by one its leaves of stone, what do we find traced there by her own hand in the everlasting rock but the history of successive progression in the series of her grand designs? We see a constant advance from the lower to the higher orders of creation in the vegetable, the fish, the reptile, of the bird, the quadruped, until Nature crowns her work with the master-piece of man. With his appearance she closed her wenderful book, because, according to the suggestions of some, through his capacity of progress he was destined to present within himself the process of a constant creation, an eternal Genesis.

But these are not the only leaves of stone from which I know there are those who reject this great hope for

gestions of some, through his capacity of progress he was destined to present within himself the process of a constant creation, an eternal Genesis.

But these are not the only leaves of stone from which we may derive a lesson upon this subject; there is a portion of man's own history for which we have to depend upon the pictured rock. In the plains of Mesopotamia, in that great paleozoic basin of the human race, we disinter sculptured stones, which picture to us with a reasonable degree of certainty the state of man's manners and his arts at that early day. Between the states of these arts and manners as pictured then, and now, is there not almost as much difference as between the successive stages of creation in some of these other leaves of which I have been speaking? There is, then, one word in which Nature has summed up the whole history of the successive process of creation, and that word is progress. There is, perhaps, one desire more common than any other to every human heart, from the hovel to the palace, from the dungeon to the throne, and that is for progress—the aspiration to be something better than we are. There is one idea with which that of life is inseparably connected—it is the idea of growth. To grow is to live; to decline is to die.

If, then, this desire has been so deeply implanted in

connected—it is the idea of growth. To grow is to live; to decline is to die.

If, then, this desire has been so deeply implanted in the heart by Nature herself, is it to be supposed that she would withhold the means of gratifying it? But whatever the ultimate destiny of our race may be, one thing is certain—man carries within himself the capacity for the means of this development he is progress; and for the means of this development he is dependent upon himself, and upon his God alone. The soul of man bears a light within itself which no portal soul of man bears a light within itself which no sortial hand but its own can extinguish. His fellow-may aid him, but no human power can crush out the immortal germ which has been implanted in the soul by Deity himself. If he consults the oracle that speaks within him, he learns that the great object of his existence is to grow morally and intellectually, and by thus enlarging the capacity of his soul to clevate himself in the order of being.

When he has once secured the consciousness of his intermorally and intellectually, and by thus enlarging the capacity of his soul to clevate himself in the order of being. When he has once secured the consciousness of his internal progress and spiritual growth he may well despise the things of time and the accidents of fortune, if they should stand between him and the higher and nobler objects of pursuit. With the consciousness of growing power, and expanding faculties, and of the development of the immortal part of his nature, he may be happy without these things; but without that consciousness they fall upon the taste like food for which we do not hunger, and water for which we do not himself. The things is to be obtained only through the pursuit of virtue and wisdom has been often proclaimed and acknowledged. Poets have sung the maxim, philosophers have pronounced it, and the great mass of mankind have said Amen to it readily enough. But to feel with the whole force of conscious truth that himan happiness depends upon the pursuit of virtue and wisdom, and that moral and intellectual progress, or spiritual growth, is the great end of our existence, is not so common among men. Too often this conviction does not force itself upon the mind until after a long and sad experience in life, when its best opportunities have been thrown away, and when, too late for this world, the teachings of that great truth can only avail us in shother. Still, whether sooner or later, it is well for us if the conviction comes at can only avail us in another. Still, whether sooner or later, it is well for us if the conviction comes at all. When that conviction is secured, it is a matter of

men of our country?

There have been individuals, perhaps, who were as much favored, but when has a whole generation of man had so many of the high and laudable objects of human ambition placed within their reach as are now lying open ambition placed within their reach as are now lying open to your grasp! All the greatest and most alluring prizes of life that can be found in a fresh, a free and mighty country, rich in all the elements of social strength and wealth, are spread out before you. They will belong to the successful champions in the great battle of life; and it is to be remembered that there is no regular army—all are citizen soldiers here. Choose ye amongst them; but you must gird up, and nerve yourselves for the contest, for they are not to be won without many a hard blow; to the laggard or craven by no chance can they fall.

Or, if the soul sickens at the prospect of the dust and tunuit of such a strife, and, with gentler and more quiet tastes, turns rather to the sweet content and unobtrusive occupations of domestic life for its hopes, of happiness.

tes, turns rather to the sweet content and unobtrusive upatiens of domestic life for its hopes of happiness, en before, or in what other land, have the temptations

Nor must it be forgotten, in choosing the ends of life, that the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake can be-come the source of a growing and unfailing delight. It is an immortal taste, which, like that of the fabled Lotes, is an immortal taste, which, like that of the fabled Lotes, when once acquired can no more be lost or forgotten. How offen has it sustained its possessor under the sorrest trials, and raised him superior to the accidents of fortune and the afflictions of life, peopling the solitude of contamement with mute companions, which while away all sense of loneliness, or, surrounding the sick man's couch with pleasant thoughts, beguile him of the sonsciousness of pain! It can give attractions to studies, from which most men shrink as unprofitable and wearisome, and the mere fact that the pursuit leads to knowledge in some of its forms may make it all-sufficing for the happiness of a life.

life.

Of all our pleasures upon earth, there are probably none of all our pleasures upon earth, there are probably none so pure or great as those which arise from the consciousness of grand intellectual discovery, and the fact of having planted the flagstaff of human dominion in some agond of thought, which we have been the inst to find and appropriate to the uses of man. The achievements and the blood-bought conquests of war can never yield so large or so pure a delight—ules, indeed, they lead to result as good in a moral, as they are great in a military point of view. Alexand to to determine they are great in a military point of view. Alexand to hot half the attained for of the attained to result as good in a moral, as they are great in a military point of view. Alexand principal end, and the others are accessories, and the attained to result as good in a moral, as they are great in a military point of view. Alexand principal end, and the others are accessories, and the attained to result as good in a moral, as they are great in a military point of view. Alexand principal end, and the others are accessories, and the attained to represent life as a great struggle, and they are proposed to the unconquerable.

Such, then, is the great model which you are the man and principal end, and the others are accessories, and principal end, and the others are accessories, and the attained to represent life as a great struggle, and the others are accessories, and the attained to require a such and proportion to the carried of Syrawsae, shouting "General was of plantary motion to saliefy our plantary motion to saliefy our plantary motion of Newton, when he first eagested the grand thought of gravitation, the universal law which great and the plantary motion of the control of the plantary motion of gravitation, the universal law which great and the plantary motion of the control of the plantary motion of gravitation, the universal law which great and principal end to the plantary motion of gravitation, the universal law which great plantary discovered the great model which were already

low with honor?

Nor can it be said that even the eminent men of this profession secure more of fame, or exercise a greater induced upon their kind, than the same class in the other pursuits and occupations of life. The great social changes and even the revolutions of government do not always come from the statesmen of the world. They are often, perhaps most often, to be traced to the church and the school, which furnish the men who are the first to sow the ideas which ultimately direct and take root in the public mind. The Saracen, when he swept the face of the old continent of the world, did not move only with the scimitar in one hand—he carried his koran in the other, and the ideas of the one penetrated where the edge of the other, keen and tempered as it was, could never have entered. James II of England, who filled a place intended for statesmen, fell under his ill-directed efforts to make a political change in his government, whilst John Locke, a poor doctor of physic, expelled from his fellowship and exiled from his country, was conceiving and preparing to project upon the world those ideas which were ultimately to shake the whole fabric of civilized society. For it has been said that he and Rousseau, who studied, and in some sense followed him, sowed those ideas which were the seed of the wind, from which sprung the whirlwind of the French revolution. I say the seeds of the wind, for he who sends forth a great general idea for the government of his race, without the limitations and restrictions necessary to fit it for the practical uses of man, although that idea may be founded in truth, is like him who turns a locomotive loose upon the track without a conductor to guide it, or as one who hurls a projectile into space, without any knowledge of the direction which it may take.

But if wild uses have been made of some of his concep-

But if wild uses have been made of some of his conce But if wild uses have been made of some of his concep-tions, the world is deeply indebted to him for the appli-cations of his great ideus upon civil liberty, and the tol-eration of religious opinion which has been made by some of its States. Certain it is, that there was no polit-ical philosepher whose works were so much in the hands of the forefathers who framed our institutions as those of Locke, and he has hewn out of the everlasting rock more than one imperishable stone for the foundation of the great fabric of civil and religious liberty. He lived in the great fabric of civil and rengious morely. The renewn, midst of English statesmen, great in position and renown, and yet who of them, if we except, perhaps, Somers, has exercised so great and wide-spread an influence over his race as this poor persecuted scholar? The great Marborough, with all his victories, did not make half so profound an inducesion upon European society as has been found an inspression upon European society as has been produced by the ideas of the political school of which Locke was the head and founder. The true architects of a country's greatness are not always recognised at once, nor often sufficiently honored in their day.

In looking to the famous men of Europe who belonged

too late for this world, the teachings of that great truth can only avail us in another. Still, whether sooner or later, it is well for us if the conviction comes at all. When that conviction is secured, it is a matter of minor importance in what particular profession or occupation we are to engage, for which of the prizes of life we are to struggle. It has been said that, in this matter, one man cannot choose for another, and the waying is doubtless a true one.

But, after all, this is a matter of inferior consequence to the youth who has conceived the true purpose of his existence, and who, understanding the highest and noblest end of human pursuit, has fixed his eye upon the immortal flower, which is to crown the victor in the great battle of life. In this favored land there are many roads, any one of which can lead him to fortune and fame. Let him choose, then, that which is best suited to his circumstances and taste. In truth, there is not so much difference between them as is generally supposed. I have some experience, and I have never yet seen the instance of a young man of good habits, good endowment, and an average capacity, who falled in any of the common professions or occupations of life, if he had the will to dare and to persevere. If he did not faint by the wayside, success was sure to crown him at last. In this country, happily, thousands of golden opportunities offic, with sucproposed and brilliant as those which are rising before the young men of our country?

There have been individuals, perhaps, who were as the convertion of the surfaced by prospects so varied and brilliant as those which are rising before the young men of our country?

There have been individuals, perhaps, who were as the convertion of the surfaced by prospects so varied and brilliant as those which are rising before the young men of our country?

There have been individuals, perhaps, who were as the convertion of the and country of the surfaced by the work of their hands, nor anongst all or the large of the surfaced by the

orphaned by the work of their hands, nor amongst all its leaves would have been found one of that deadly bay, whose thirst can be slacked and whose green can be re-freshed by nothing but the blood of the brave. Am I not right, then, in saying that the means of acquiring wealth, favor, and the power of influencing our fellow-man, are to be found in all the honest and useful occupations of life, and that the too exclusive pursuit of political honors is neither sanctioned by right reason, nor justified by experience? There are many fields of independent exertion from which a man without the aid independent exertion from which a man window the aid of popular favor, or of constituencies, can so operate upon public opinion, or so direct the labors of society, as the exercise an influence upon human affairs, which shall be great or small according to his gifts and acquire-ments. And surely upon shy or all of these he can better discharge his domestic duties, and more profitably pursue his individual interests, so far as mere wealth is concerned.

In proportion as you increase the general power and influence of public opinion over the affairs and government of men you multiply the opportunities for independent exertion, and you increase the means of individual usefulness to the world at large; for in the degree in which you enlarge the empire of ideas, you increase the power and influence of the master-mind that conceives them—and this without regard to his particular position in society, or the circumstances of his life. The poor scholar, from out the dim recesses of his garret, may utter the war-cry which shall raise a world in arms against an oppression or an abuse which he has been the first to discover, and to point out the true mode of attacking. Or he may conceive and send forth the idea which is to be a welcome guest in every human habitation, from the palace to the hovel, and to dwell as a secret companion and a familiar charm in the seat alike of the peasant and the prince.

But, young gentlemen, as I have already said, there is a far higher object of individual exertion than the temporal power and influence which man may build up, or the peaced of furnaye which earlies but a while and In proportion as you increase the general power ar

men for a place to be assigned us in order that we may engage in the struggle; here are triumphs which we may lead up, undistorted by the mean of the capitre or the wall of human victims, as they walk chained behind the whole the wall of human victims, as they walk chained behind the whole the wall of human victims, as they walk chained behind the whole whole the work of human victims, as they walk chained behind the whole whole

It is true that the great captain requires some of the It is true that the great captain requires some of the highest moral qualities of our nature to enable him to exercise a command and mastery over men, but it is also true that the trade of war is, for the most part, nechanical in its nature; it is mechanical in most of its means and appliances—it is a contest of physical force, and physical weapons and machinery are mainly employed to decide it. In modern times the nation which possesses the largest means of providing the munitions of war, and of transporting, provisioning, and paying armies, as a general rule, must prove the victor, and some of the exploits upon which military commanders pride themselves most are strictly mechanical in their nature. Upon which of his military achievements does Casar himself dwell with more self-complacency than upon the wonderful bridge which, within ten days, he threw over the Rhine, and which enabled him to surprise and chase those Gerbridge which, within ten days, he threw over the Rhine, and which enabled him to surprise and chase those Germans through their native forests who had been the terror of Gaul? Of what avail would have been the great strategetical combinations by which Napoleon concentrated almost simulfaneously upon Vienna vast masses of men which he had summoned from the most distant parts of Europe, if it had not been for that bridge of boots which he constructed with so much skill in the presence and without the knowledge of the enemy, to enable him to pass over and fight the battle of Wagram? What were Vauban, and Cohorn, and Tolleben but master workmen in a trade which draws large aids, it is true, from the natural and exact sciences? Chemistry furnishes the knowledge by which the engineer prepares his am-

from the natural and exact sciences? Chemistry furnishes the knowledge by which the engineer prepares his ammunition, and mathematics gives him the rules by which he calculates the range of his projectiles, constructs his places of strength, and measures and applies the natural powers which he calls to his aid; but to which of the useful arts may not science be called upon to make contributions as great and as valuable?

Do not understand me, young gentlemen, as disparaging the noble profession of arms. In all times and countries men have united with an almost universal assent to pay the highest honors to military glory. The soldier's fune is that which they have most prized and admired, and the fact that an opinion is universal has always been considered as affording at least a probable evidence of its truth. The man who honestly risks fortune and life to defend the rights of his country, and ty sustain the government under whose shelter and protecsustain the government under whose shelter and tion the whole machinery of society is conducted, sustain the government under whose shelter and protection the whole machinery of society is conducted, is entitled to the grateful respect of his fellow. The strong-handed man, who uses his might to maintain the right, has always been regarded by the mass of mankind with the highest admiration and praise. Lord Burleigh, it is true, has disparaged the profession of arms, and said that a soldier in peace was like a chimney in the summer; but this remark is no longer true, even of the soldier by profession, and never could have been applied with justice to him who united the citizen to the military character. The citizen soldier constitutes the surest and cheapest defence of a State. Competent to the full discharge of his duties either as a citizen or a soldier, he performs his whole part in the operations of society, whether in peace or in war; living amidst the mass of the people, he constitutes no part of a class separate in interests and affections from the community at large, but thinks and feels with them, and is ready and willing to strike for them, if the occasion shall demand it. The highest character on the page of human history is that of a citizen soldier; and the State with a wise Providence has set up the effigy of that of human history is that of a citizen soldier; and the State with a wise Providence has set up the effigy of tha State with a wise riovinciac has see up to a second immortal man within your view, as the great exempla and model upon which you ought to form yourselves Take him for all and all, where will you find such a com bination of wisdom without presumption, of courage with out rashness, of self-respect without arregance, of patriot ism without selfishness, and of a love of virtue so nearl superior to all temptation, as were exhibited through long life of trial and difficulty by that great Virginian if he had lived amongst ancient nations, in the days of hero worship and apotheoses, what niche in their temple would have been deemed elevated enough for that image, which your good old mother State has sought to use for a far higher moral purpose, by preserving it as a perpetual memorial of that example, to which she wishes to give a constant and immortal influence in the education and dis-cipline of her youth?

cipline of her youth?

But do not suppose that the whole force of that gree example is to be found even in those high qualities which example is to be found even in those high qualities which I have already enumerated; there is yet another moral to be derived from that consummate character, which yonder image symbolizes, in its mute expression, if it cannot speak—and that is a noble spirit of self-reliance. Do not understand me as meaning by this a vain self-confidence, a presumptuous egotism, which dures because it is yourself, and from no consciousness of internal strength; this is the rashness of the fool who rushes on where even "angels for to treat". Further that feith is your rashness of the fool who rushes on where even "angels fear to tread." But I mean, rather, that faith in yourself, which rests upon the conscious possession of powers and resources which a just appreciation teaches you are sufficient for the emergency that you are called upon to meet, and without which we should have had none of those great examples of heroic perseverance which here and there adorn the page of human history.

No man had more innate modesty of character than

No man had more innate modesty of character than Washington; none appreciated more justly than himself the want of a military education, or the immense advantages which his antagonists possessed in their superior discipline and preparations for war; and yet he never despaired; when he turned upon his enemies who were pursuing him, with the remains of his shattered army, to sweep them in detail at Trenton and Princeton, he struck with the energy not of a great desnair, but of a description. sweep them in detail at Trenton and Princeton, he struck with the energy not of a great despair, but of a deep faith in himself and his countrymen. He knew how to estimate the true value of high moral resources, either in a man or a nation; conscious of possessing them in no stinted measure, and knowing that neither he nor his countrymen were as yet touched in them, he felt that in this struggle he was indomitable. Nor did he lose heart or hope under the sterner trials of Valley Forge; for al-though he knew that both he and his people were poorly equipped in the physical means of war, yet he felt that both in him and them their place of strength was in the citadel of the will, which was not only unconquered, but

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virtue under the force of any temptation. To fall because you will not yield in these points is, in truth, to conquer and the fruits of such transgression, if you were to gather them, would fall to ashes in the taste.

Follow rather the example of the good old mother State, which has taken such unwearied pains to inculcate upon her children that honor and moral greatness are to be preferred to material wealth or physical power. She was not especially called by her interests to be the first volunteer in the great struggle for American liberty, and yet, if she was not the very first, there were none ahead of her in enrolling for that war, or superior to her in the magnitude of the sacrifices which she made to sustain it. At her very entrance into the great family of States, of which she was then the leading member, she stripped herself of an empire to secure domestic peace and build up a great and common prosperity. Principle has been the lone star which directed her course, nor has she ever permitted the temptations of material interests to seduce her from it for a moment. If there be a people upon earth capable of initiating the proud Athenian example, of rejecting a proposition which was most beneficial, because it was most unjust, it is the people of this great old Commonwealth of Virginia. She has preferred to transmit to her children the inheritance of a good name rather than power and wealth.

With such proud associations in the past, and with such family traditions before him, he must be a degenerate son, indeed, who would voluntarily cast stain or blot upon the name which has been the subject of so much tender care and solicitude. He must be ungrateful, too, if he would spare to use any honorable opportunity within his reach to build up the moral grandeur or the material prosperity of his State. There can be no true son of such a mother, of whose heart it is not the first device to see her recowned with honors, to clothe her right arm with power, and 40 buckle on her left the shield which may defend her

was, indeed, the "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

I have spoken, my young friends, of the character of Virginia as I believe it deserves to be described; not lightly, or in the boastful spirit of mere State pride. I am proud of my State, but too proud, I trust, wantonly to

am proud of my State, but too proud, I trust, wantonly to bring up its name and character for public criticism and discussion, or to beg the world to praise her. So far as the world is concerned, if she is entitled to its esteem she will in the end receive it, and if she does not deserve it, the attempt to enforce admiration would only be ridiculous. I speak of her to her children, to you who have been trained and disciplined under her own eye, that you may understand and appreciate the full value of the sacred trust which is soon to be committed, in part, to your hands. To the generation to which you belong, and in which I trust you are to take a leading part, must soon be consigned the care over the rights, the interests, and the character of the State of Virginia. By your best affections, and in the names of her mighty dead, I charge you to be true to that great trust when it is confided to your hands. Still keep open her road to progress and you to be true to that great trust when it is confided to your hands. Still keep open her road to progress and improvement. Preserve within her the feeling of self-respect, and so clothe her countenance in the moral dignity which is given by the consciousness of high purposes as to awe down the jest of the ribald or the sneer of the profanc. If she owes to her race services in the great cause of human improvement, pay them, if it taxes all-your energies and tasks your highest powers to do it; and let it be no widow's mite that she will east into the treasury of good works, but the rich contributions of a full-handed benevolence. She will offer no wrong to others, and I need not tell you to see that she suffers none from others in her turn, for in this matter I am sure that you will need the bridle more than the spur. But the contests of physical farce are not the only battle-fields upon which the destinies of States are to be deter-But the contests of physical force are not the only battle fields upon which the destinies of States are to be deter-mined in modern times. Public opinion has now become a moral power, which is world wide in its influence, and a moral power, which is world-wide in its influence, and all governments, ecrtainly all civilized governments, must feel that influence. Before that great bar, where this verdict is to be rendered, States and nations must be ready at all times to plead. Like other human tribunals, mistaken judgments may be rendered here, and States, or even individuals, who have truth on their side, may resist them with success in the long run, but in the mean time the whole social fabric may reel under the assaults which are thus directed against it. These are the battle-fields upon which the State must look mainly to its church and its schools for the defenders who are trained for such its schools for the defenders who are trained for such

struggles.

Whatever be the theatre of strife to which she is in Whatever be the theatre of strife to which she is invited, may she be ever ready for the encounter, and may her children always be prepared and equal to the task of her defence! May the day of her misfortune never be so great but that, like the old Anchises, she may find some sob strong enough to bear her safely through the fires of the strife, or the cloud of missiles which her enemies may hurl against her! But I angur for her no such day of misfortune; she will continue to guide her steps by the light of truth and principle, and in so doing will grow and prosper. My deepest solicitude and ardent prayer for her is, that she may carry with her in her course the increasing love and respect of mankind. This is the point to which I would direct your most carnest attention. Rely upon it that, from time to time, public opinion will summon the States and nations of the earth to appear bafore the bar of the world to give an account of the services which they have rendered in the great cause of human progress and improvement. Whenever that day of reckoning comes, at the great roll-call of nations I trust our own State of Virginia may be able to render as good an account of the services which they have rendered the last still the mean recoming comes, at the great roul-call of nations I trust our own State of Virginia may be able to render as good an account as the best of them; and that, with the proud smile of maternity upon her face, she may lead up a fair array of her sons to be crowned in the face of the world, either with laurel for the triumphs of war or with myrtle

Young gentlemen, in conclusion, permit me to express the carnest wish that you may furnish some amongst the names of those whom she will present as deserving either the laurel or the myrtle crown.

INSTRUCTION OF NEGROES .- There will be a meeting the ministers and efficial members of the different churches in Richmond, to devise the best means for promoting the Scripture instruction of our negroes, in the First Baptist Church (Dr. Burrow's) on Tuesday, the 7th of July, at 84 o'clock, p. m. All persons feeling an interest are invited to attend.

Many prominent ministers and laymen of different de cominations unite in this call.—Richmond Enquirer.

The above is deserving of notice, inasmuch as one o the standing arguments of the abolition republican against the "sin of slavery" is, that the moral and re ligious instruction of the southern negro slave is neglect ed. When will there be "a meeting of the minister and official members of the different churches in" New York "to devise means for promoting the Scripture in struction of ' the scores and thousands of our own in habitants who are utterly destitute of such instruction and wish to continue so ?- Journal of Commerce,

DEATH OF GEN. HERNANDEZ .- The Jacksonville (Fla. News announces the death of General Joseph M. Hernar dez, of Florida, who was the first delegate to Congres while in the territorial condition, a leading member o the territorial legislature, and on the breaking out of Indian hestilities was made a brigadier general in the United States service.

THE NATIONAL HOTEL DISEASE.—The New York Ev The NATIONAL HOTEL DISEASE.—The New York Free-ning Post says. "In another column will be found the report of the Academy of Medicine on the singular and disastrons enders; which prevailed at the National Hotel at Washington not spring.
"This report is very emphatic in tracing the source of the disorder to malarial influences, and corroborates the opinion expressed by us some time since in discussing its

erally in favor of the report, and it was adopted large majority.' Fx-Passident Van Buren .- The new very aged but yet

The opinion of the members seemed to be very gen

Fx-Passinear Vax Bruzs.—The new very aged but yet scarcely venerable Van Buren was at Mr. Marcy's funeral, with his old bright, healthy look, and smilling as ever—not solemn even in the presence of death, for solemnity seems impossible for his ever-happy face. He does not show over sixty, and his hair is no whiter than it has been for twenty-five years. He walked in vigor from the capitol, after the ceremonics were over, to take the cars at the river for his home in Kinderhook. To-day he looks younger even than ex-President Pierce, with whom, side by side, he entered the assembly chamber.

[N. Y. Expires.]

It must be a source of pride to Virginians to know that they have upon the James river perhaps the fastest steam boat in the world. The Glen Cove, which plies between boat in the world. The Glen Cove, which plies between this city and Richmond, and commanded by the popy John Davis, was built a little more than a year agnew York, where she soon became famous as the fax boat on the Hudson. Her greatest speed we do not a recollect, but she has since her arrival in the South mover twenty miles in an hour.—Norfolk Argus.

WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 16, 1857.

We are not disposed to treat in a spirit of levity grave political questions, or to make light of serious ifficulties bravely met and overcome; but still we cannot resist a smile while noticing the ludierous shifts to which many of the intemperate opponents of Gov. Walker have been reduced in their efforts to make strong and unfounded prejudices assume the attractive form of a consistent advocacy of unquestioned constitutional rights. First we are told by them that Governor Walker has shamelessly and persistently violated both the letter and spirit of his instructions. Unable to make the charge good, they coolly inform us that the instructions are, in many important particulars, opposed to the principle of popular sovereignty imbodied in the Nebraska-Kansas act! At one time the governor is accessed of "playing into the hands of the abolitionists," and at another he is charged with having c axed, bullied, or bribed the pro-slavery men of Kansas into a participation of the same suicidal game! The New York Tribune denounces him as the wretched and unscrupulous tool of "the slave democracy," while not a few of the southern extremists are quite sure that, if he is not in the pay of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, he has a warm heart and a helping. hand for its shricking agents and rifle-shooting proselytes. These amusing shifts and contradictions are noticed in a late number of the Richmond Examiner with a clearness of apprehension, a force of illustration, and a power of argument for which that ablyconducted democratic journal is so widely distinguished. Says the Examiner:

" The fact is that the clamorers on this subject, who The fact is that the chambrers on this subject, who are unwilling for the people of Kansas to settle this matter for themselves—now that it can no longer be denied that Walker is acting with the approval and co-operation of the national democracy of that Territory—are driven to the desperate expedient of charging him, by his mere fiat, with working a miracle on public sentiment in Kansas; and that before he arrived in the Territory! It is notowith working a miracle on public sentiment in Kansas; and that before he arrived in the Territory! It is notorious that he was charged in the South with abolitionizing Kansas before news of his arrival there had had time to reach our part of the Union. But now not even that absurdity is found to suffice; and he is gravely charged with debauching the democratic sentiment in the Territory, although that sentiment was made up and expressed before he arrived upon the ground! It is always thus, however. Before you can make demons of ordinary men you must first ascribe to them superhuman powers. We expect to see all the tortures of witchcraft applied to Walker, the weird hag political, who was riding distraught Kansas the wildest sort of a race before yet he was present in the Territory in the flesh and blood.

"But the idea that Walker has subdued and conquered the pro-slavery men of Kansas and converted the furious fellows who put down Reeder, Shaunon, and Geary into free-State champions, seems to us preposterous in the extrome. If the pro-slavery men in Kansas were the men of dough which that idea supposes, why it is certain the cause of the South' was in most unreliable keeping, and could scarcely have prospered independently of the advent of the modern Shiloh—Walker."

We stated, a day or two ago, that a reaction had

We stated, a day or two ago, that a reaction had taken place in many quarters where opposition to Gov. Walker and the policy of the democracy of Kansas appeared to be of the warmest and most unrelenting character-a reaction founded upon a correct knowledge of the views, sentiments, and wishes of the people of the Territory. As further evidence of the correctness of this statement, we make room for the following frank and manly "confession" from the Wilmington (North Carolina) Commercial:

the Wilmington (North Carolina) Commercial:

"We must confess that we are somewhat in a fog,"
and cannot see why the submission of the constitution of
Kansas to the people should be thought inconsistent with
the principles laid down by President Pierce and the Cincinnati platform, or at all repugnant to the doctrine of
southern rights, as declared and maintained by the most patriotic of our southern citizens for years long past.

"A difference of opinion on this or any other topic will
not permanently affect the relationship of southern unity,
as the enemies of the present administration expect;
many of whom, of the South too, would have Kansas admitted as a free State if that event would break the
moral power and impeach the political integrity of the
present administration.

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"With the corruptions and intrigues that may be brought to bear upon the election of ratification or rejection in Congress we have nothing to do. Better that Kansas should be admitted as a free State, and all the evils that would probably attend that event be encountered, than that southern citizens should repudiate the great principle, the battle for whose assertion has been fought and were viry that the continuous should be continuous and shoreward. and won, viz: that the question of slavery or anti-slavery shall be decided by the people of the Tecritories."

This is the right language and the right doctrine. et the principle of popular sovereignty be firmly and impartially upheld, without reference as to who are or who are not to be gainers by its practical enforcement.

FOREIGN COMMERCE OF BREMEN. TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES .- PORT REGULATIONS.

The area of Bremen is ninety-six square miles, and the population in 1852 was 85,000. Its situa tion on the Weser renders it the principal emporium of Hanover, Brunswick, Hesse, and other countries traversed by that river. Bremen is reputed to be one of the oldest cities in Europe, mention being made of it as a commercial mart as early as A. D. 837. The port of Bremen is Bremen-haven, opposite to Braake, at which the largest-sized vessels can enter and discharge and receive their cargoes, though vessels drawing six or seven feet of water can enter the port of the city, at which point the Weser is belted with capacious quays. The impor's are building materials, tobacco, raw estton, cotton fabries, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, whale oil, tar, dye woods, &c., and the exports, linen, glass, woollen goods, cloths, wines, cigars and other manufactured tobacco, hides, &c. The trade of Bremen with the United States is exceeded by that of no other city in northern Europe, if, perhaps, we except the city of Havre, through which so vast an amount of United States products reach Switzerland and other manufacturing countries of Europe. The total value of this trade in 1856 was \$22,128,031, of which our exports to Bremen amounted to \$10,281,451, against \$11,846,580, the value of our imports from that port. The principal articles which we send to Bremen are cotton, tobacco, and rice. Of the total sum of \$10,281,451, the value of our exports the year above named, cotton amounted to \$4,238,497, tobacco to \$2,252,799, and rice to \$263,477-making an aggregate total for these three articles of \$6,754. 773. The quantity of rice exported this year was 8,051 tierces, being the largest quantity exported to any other of the fifty foreign countries to which we shipped that article in 1856, excepting Cuba, the quantity sent to this island being 19,664 tierces, and 161 barrels at a value of \$559,246. Of the total sum of \$11,846,580, the value of imports from Bremen, piece goods (wool and cotton) amounted to \$3,430,-429, cotton hosiery to 81,274,100, silk and silk piece goods to \$2,305,423. The value of free goods included in the above total for 1856 was only \$84,623, while the share on which duties (chiefly 20 per cent.

and upwards) were paid was \$11,761,957. There were imported under the American flag \$7,619,036 in value, and in foreign bottoms \$4,296,072.

The indirect trade of the United States, chiefly with the different countries of Germany, Switzer land, Austria, and even with England and France through the port of Bremen, is becoming every year more important and valuable. In 1856 it amounted in imports alone, to \$9,756,880, nearly equalling in value the indirect trade of the United States through British and French ports; that through the former, in 1856, amounting, on imports, to \$13,040,398, and by the latter to \$11,258,333. The following tabular statement will show the principal countries from which the exports reached the United States this year through the port of Bremen, and the amount assigned

to each country:
Tuble showing the value of the Indirect Trade of the United States
through the port of Bremen, in 1856, with the countries design

nated.	HOOMER OF THE REAL PROPERTY OF
Countries.	Value.
rusdin	\$2,406,967
her on w	9 445 971
kayaria	813,560
rankfort	222,546
Vurtemburg	73,715
3iden	45,479
lesse	
axe-Coburg Gotha	11.621
aze-Weimar-Eisenach	6.888
axe-Meiningen	13.310
Ianover	27,332
Brunswick	4,601
Oldenburg	2.685
Vassau	5,080
Yassau	1,354,710
ingland	183,658
witzerland	
Austria	258,916
In the State Department B	

mercial Relations, vol. 1, we find several valuable tabular statements, exhibiting the great importance of our commerce with Bremen, and the rank which is given to cotton, tobacco, and rice in that comnerce. From these we condense the following tables, compiled from Bremen official authorities :

Statement showing the quantities, in pounds, of Tobacco, Rice, and Cotton imported into Bremen during the three years ending with 1851. 1849 94 546 398 9,353,921 5,466,410 15,327,604 13,707,343 14,408,798

10,792,278 Statement showing the quantities, in bales, of Raw Cotton imported into Bremen from the United States, South America, and the West Indies, respectively, during the three years ending with 1854.

United States. South America. 1852------21.783 The manufacturing industry of Bremen is general-

ly in a condition of prosperity and progress, espe cially its tobacco factories, sugar refineries, distille ries, cotton mills, weaving factories, tanneries, and soap-and-candle factories. Its manufacture of cigars is, however, one of its most important industrial pursuits. The total value of this article exported to the different States of Germany, Switzerland, Austria, the British North American possessions, the United States, and other countries, in 1851, was \$1. 424,022 69, of which the share assigned to the United States was \$180,926, against \$171,046 in 1856 Under the operation of the new tariff, in force since the 1st instant, the quantity and value will increase every year, the old duty of 40 per cent. imposing too heavy a burden on the article for much profit in the markets of the United States.

The customs tariff of Great Britain enables that ountry to compete with the United States in the carrying-trade of our great staple to the market of Bremen. The 1,000 per cent. duty on tobacco in the ports of the United Kingdom precludes the chance of giving to her flag any share, unless in the direct trade, in supplying Bremen with the American article; not so, however, with cotton. This article being admitted into British ports free of duty, its reshipment not only to the Hanse-towns, but to other countries in Europe, has materially injured American shipping interests, while the costs and expenses of freights. commissions, insurance, &c .- falling, as they do, on the producer as well as the consumer-have long been a subject of complaint with those interested in the progress and prosperity of our cotton trade. During the four years ending with 1854, the annual average quantity of this staple exported from the United States to the Hanse-towns, chiefly to Bren 24.811,626, while the annual average quantity reshipped from British ports for the same destination was 36,563,996. This subject has, we are gratified to perceive, already engaged the serious attention of those interested; and, doubtless, amid the many praiseworthy and zealous efforts and projects now on foot for promoting the commercial interests of our whole country, proper measures will be devised to promote the direct exportation of our great staple from our own ports, in our own vesse's to the different countries in which it is consumed.

In 1855 there belonged to Bremen 264 vessels. leasuring an aggregate of 140,418 tons. There entered the same year 2,557 vessels, measuring 199,223 lasts, or 398,446 tons; and there cleared 2,674 vensels of 215,213 lasts, or 430,426 tons. The value of cargoes entered was \$22,119,405, and of cargoes cleared \$20,650,875. The total value of imports into Bremen during this year was \$44,379,145, and of exports from Bremen to all countries \$40,770.265.

The import duties are two-thirds of one per cent. ul valorem on the invoice valuation, including the expense of freight and insurance; and the export duty one-third of one per cent. ad valorem. Merchandise may be entered at the custom-house as transit goods subject to a duty of 1 1-20 cent per centner of 10 pounds. These entries are made for a period of three months, after which an additional charge of about 25 per cent. on the 1 1-29 cent per 109 pounds is de-

MESSRS. MASON AND COX.

The report from Cincinnati that the Hon. Mr. Cox had been killed in Kentucky by his competitor, Hon-Mr. Mason, is discredited by the Louisville Journal. The affray is said to have occurred on the 8th in Morgan county, but the Mount Sterling Whig of the 10th, published in the adjoining county, makes no nention of it. We copy the following from the Louisville Democrat of the 11th instant :

"A painful rumor reached this city yesterday, which "A painful rumor reached this city yesterday, which received some confirmation through the Cincinnati papers, that Messrs. Ma on and Cox, the rival candidates for Congress in the ninth district, had had an affray in Morgan county, upon an indefinite day this week, in which Mr. Cox had been shot and killed by Mr. Mason. We immediately telegraphed to Maysville for information, and received a response from a reliable source to the effect that there was no news there relative to the rumor. We sincerely hope there is no foundation for the rumor. sincerely hope there is no foundation for the rumor, while we are painfully aware of the fact that the two gentlemen have had difficulties which might possibly have led to a personal encounter."